


ROLL CALL EDUCATION COMMITTEE


[illegible]

COMMITTEE FILE COPY

TABLED BILL

The **SENATE EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE** TABLED **SB 458**, by motion,
on **Monday, February 19, 2007**.


(For the Committee)


(Secretary of the Senate)

(Time) 1:22 (Date)

February 22, 2007

Marigail Schreiner, Secretary

Phone: 444-4891

MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

ROLL CALL VOTE

DATE 2-19-07 BILL NO. SB 458 NUMBER _____

MOTION: Table

NAME	AYE	NO
BLACK, JERRY (R)	✓	
ELLIOTT, JIM (D)	✓	
HAWKS, BOB (D)	✓	
JUNEAU, CAROL (D)	✓	
KITZENBERG, SAM (D)	✓	
McGEE, DAN (R)	✓	
PETERSON, JIM (R)	✓	
STORY, ROBERT (R)	✓	
RYAN, DON (D) - CHAIRMAN		✓

8 1

SENATE PROXY FORM

According to Senate Rule 30-70 (13) (f) , a committee member may vote by proxy using a standard form.

PROXY VOTE

I, the undersigned, hereby authorize Senator Hawke

to vote my proxy on any issue before the Senate SB 458 -

Yes to table Education Committee

held on 19 Feb, 2007.

[Signature]
SENATOR
STATE OF MONTANA

Senate Education COMMITTEE

Date 2/19/07

Bill Nos. ^{HB} 363, 488, 456 Sponsor(s) Ward, Ryan, Ryan

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Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

**MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE**

VISITOR REGISTER

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

DATE 2-19-2007 BILLS BEING HEARD
TODAY SB 458

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NAME	PHONE	REPRESENTING	BILL #	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Martha Farrand	287-5173	self	SB 458		✓
Carl Farrand	287-5173	self	SB 458		✓
Edwin Farrand	287-5173	self	SB 458		✓
David Farrand	287-5173	self	SB 458		✓
Dale Farrand	287-5173	self	SB 458		✓
Tom Tung	336-2392	self	SB 458		✓
Nicole Cohoon	781-0006	Self	SB 458		✓
Charles Cohoon	781-0006	Self	SB 458		✓
Renee Hallett	781-5674	self	SB 458		✓
Jerald L Hallett	564-1075	Self	SB 458		✓
Melissa Hartley	257-3456	self	SB 458		✓
Erin Russell	755-6044	self	SB 458		✓
Brenda Russell	212-7977	self	SB 458		✓
Christine Bushnell	458-9917	Self	SB 458		✓
Lana Chambers	443-2846	Self	SB 458		✓
Tral "	"	Self	"		✓
Svenra "	"	Self	"		✓
Larry "	"	Self	"		✓
McKenzie "	"	Self	"		✓
Flynn Hartley	257-3456	Self	SB 458		✓
BRET BENEDICT	463-2425	SELF	SB 458		✓

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Montana Senate
Visitors' Register

Education COMMITTEE

Date 2-19-07

Bill Nos. SB 458 Sponsor(s) Senator Ryan

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Name	Representing	Bill No.	Support	Oppose	Info.
Robyn Nelson	Self	458		X	
Patricia S. Nelson	Self	458		X	
Roger L. Nelson	Self	458		X	
Kurtis Olson	Flathead SB5 CPOM	458		X	
Amber T. Nelson	Self	458		X	
Richard A. Nelson		458		+	
Janette L. Chille	Self	458		X	
Scott M. Chille	self	458		X	
JAY ROSEBERG	Self	458		X	
SEZIANNA ROSEBERG	SELF	458		X	
Emmett Coon	Self	458		X	
Anne Coon	Self	458		X	
Gwendolyn Coon	Self	458		X	
Dominique Coon	Self	458		X	
Alexandra Coon	Self	458		X	
Wesley Coon	Self	458		X	
WILLIAM E. HENNING	SELF	458		X	
Kim Anderson	Self	458		X	
Kim Anderson	Self	458		X	

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

Montana Senate
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EDUCATION COMMITTEE Date 02-19-07
Bill Nos. 458 Sponsor(s) DON RYAN

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Name	Representing	Bill No.	Support	Oppose	Info.
Naomi Nelson	Self	SB458		X	
LYNDA HENNING	Self	SB458		X	
BRICE HENNING	Self	SB458		X	
Henry C. Henning	Self	SB458		X	
W. Emory Henning	Self	SB458		X	
Theray Sling	Self	SB458		X	
Ramona Paulson	Self	SB458		X	
Hannah Koljonen	Self	SB 458		X	
Abigail Koljonen	Self	SB458		X	
Scott Koljonen	Self	SB458		X	
Janet Koljonen	Self	SB458		X	
Abram Koljonen	Self	SB458		X	
Benn Koljonen	Self	SB 458		X	
Susan Hartman	Self	SB 458		X	
PAUL HARTMAN	Self	SB 458		X	
Ron Juente	Self & Family (6)	SB458			

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

Visitors' Register

COMMITTEE

Date _____

Bill Nos.

Sponsor(s).

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Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

Visitors' Register

COMMITTEE

Date 2/19/87

Bill Nos.

Sponsor(s)

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**MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE**

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

DATE 2-19-2007 BILLS BEING HEARD
TODAY SB458

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NAME	PHONE	REPRESENTING	BILL #	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Elizabeth Salacinski	6864165	self	SB458		X
Andy Salacinski	6864165	self	SB458		X
Caleb Ryan	826-5316	self	SB458		X
Caleb Ryan	826-5316	self	SB458		X
Charles Crowder	4064521867	self	SB458		X
MONTY CASEBOLT	406 222 7117	SELF	SB458		X
Bryan Wells	4063334396	self	SB458		X
Roxanna Ryan	826-5316	self	SB458		X
Don Ryan	" "	"	SB458		X
Karlgyanne Ryan	" "	self	SB458		X
Donna Ryan	" "	self	SB458		X
DAVID PROCTOR	273-3158	Self	SB458		X
Charmaine Proctor	273-3158	self	SB458		X
Jandra Williams	777-7221	Self	SB458		X
Sharon Grosse	218-052	self	SB458		X
Simeon Grosse	"	self	SB458		X
Brian Ward	2221138	self	SB458		X
Teresa Ward	2221138	self	SB458		X
Julie Grinder	287-7814	Self	SB458		X
David Johnson	777-5712	Self	SB458		X
Cornelia Mikulski	452-2830	my children	SB458		X

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**MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE**

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

DATE 2-19-2007 SB 458 **BILLS BEING HEARD**
TODAY SB 458

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NAME	PHONE	REPRESENTING	BILL #	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Ron Tippet	752-9000	self	SB 458		✓
Lori Jo Mann	288-3004		SB 458		✓
Skye Anderson	626-5534	self	SB 458		✓
Jesse Anderson	626-5534	self	SB 458		✓
Catherine Anderson	626-5534	self	SB 458		✓
Benton Anderson	626-5534	self	SB 458		✓
Robert Thomas	529-3320	self	SB 458		✓
Bart Thomas	273-9119	self	SB 458		✓
TRACY THAMES	520-7513	self	SB 458		✓
Tanner Thomas	273-9119	self	SB 458		✓
Tonya Wiggins	961-1550	self	SB 458		✓
Heidi Steiner	961-3619	self	SB 458		✓
Nancy Solbert	626-4165	self	SB 458		✓
Dee A. Hunt	453-5472	self	SB 458		✓
Quin Johnson	453-5472	self	SB 458		✓
Amelia Johnson	453-5472	self	SB 458		✓
Horro Eggert	653-2965	self	SB 458		✓
Shylar L. Hall	453-0430	self	SB 458		✓
Open M Hall	453-0430	self	SB 458		✓
Stephen Johnson	453-5472	self	SB 458		✓
Will Farrand	287-5173	self	SB 458		✓

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**MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE**

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

DATE 2-19-07 **BILLS BEING HEARD**
TODAY SB 458

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NAME	PHONE	REPRESENTING	BILL #	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Karina Snitko	494-1157	Self	SB 458		X
Jessica Snitko	494-1107	Self	SB 458		X
Joseph & Dawn Miller	753-5152	Selves	SB 458		X
Andre Snitko	490-5154	Covenant Community Church	SB 458		X
Sean Snitko	490-5154	Self	SB 458		X
Christian Snitko	490-5154	Self	SB 458		X
Kevin Bryant	472-3237	Self	SB 458		X
Christine Bryant	472-3237	Self	SB 458		X
William Brinder	287-7814	Self	SB 458		X
TERRI JARVIS	363-7590	SELF	SB 458		X
Jamie Hale	961-1407	SELF	SB 458		X
Kelli Jarvis	363-7590	Self	SB 458		X
Danielle Jarvis	363-7590	Self	SB 458		X
Jenny Rowling	363-2833	Self	SB 458		X
Allison Hale	961-1407	Self	SB 458		X
Broske Barboddy	363-2484	Self	SB 458		X
Jessica Knoll	642-9614	Self	SB 458		X
Ulrica Knoll	642-9614	Self	SB 458		X
Julie Feaster	490-9352	Self	SB 458		X
Bill Feaster	490-9351	Self	SB 458		X
Josh Kirk	323-0653	My family	SB 458		X

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**MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE**

VISITOR REGISTER

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

DATE 2/19/07 BILLS BEING HEARD
TODAY SB 458

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NAME	PHONE	REPRESENTING	BILL #	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Chelsey Benedict	406-463-2425	Self	SB 458		✓
Annita Benedict	406-463-2425	Self	SB 458		✓
Chad Benedict	406-463-2425	Self	SB 458		✓
Warren Portenier	406-373-6105	Self	SB 458		✓
Christine Portenier	406-373-6105	Self	SB 458		✓
Lyni Portenier	406-373-6105	Self	SB 458		✓
Logan Portenier	406-373-6105	Self	SB 458		✓
Chala Benedict	406-463-2425	Self	SB 458		✓
Charity Benedict	406-463-2425	Self	SB 458		✓
Chandee Benedict	406-463-2425	Self	SB 458		✓
Lauren Hatley	406-257-3456	Self	SB 458		✓
James Russell	406-212-7977	Self	SB 458		✓
Joanne Kaulzlarich	406-227-2605	Self	SB 458		✓
Mike Kaulzlarich	406-227-2605	Self	SB 458		✓
Marissa Stodola	449-3676	Self	SB 458		✓
Laura Miller	777-7311	Self	SB 458		✓
Barla Price	777-4347	Self	SB 458		✓
Angela Hepper	381-0041	Self	SB 458		✓
Wanda Johnson	777-5712	Self	SB 458		✓
Daxina Barager	406-453-1166	Self	SB 458		✓
Melissa Smith	406-494-1152	Self	SB 458		✓

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**MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE**

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

VISITOR REGISTER

DATE 2/19/07

BILLS BEING HEARD TODAY SB 458

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NAME	PHONE	REPRESENTING	BILL #	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Laurie Shaeffer	406-456-3234	SELF	SB 458		X
Craig & Diana Doud & Family	406-457-1537	SELF & 5 children	SB 458		X
Roly Shannon	406-683-5476	SELF	SB 458		X
Connie Shannon	406-683-5476	SELF	SB 458		X
Kenneth Verdel	406-837-2303	SELF	SB 458		X
Rich Royal	406-590-7788	Self + wife	SB 458		X
Val Tuma	406-336-2390	Self 4 children	SB 458		X
Jordan Pelt	406-686-9127	SELF	SB 458		X
Mervyn Pelt	1-406-681-3127	SELF	SB 458		X
Jonathan Bartholomew	406-449-7864	self	SB 458		X
Jade Thaneponn	406-388-5181	Self	SB 458		X
Nan Thaneponn	406-388-5181	Self	SB 458		X
Broke Thaneponn	406-388-5181	self	SB 458		X
Lane Thaneponn	406-388-5181	Self	SB 458		X
Mary Blome	406-933-5370	SELF / family	SB 458		X
Barbara Bryant	406-472-3237	SELF	SB 458		X
Maile Holmquist	406-467-3489	family	SB 458		X
Brona Slagyn	406-467-3461	self & children	SB 458		X
Sonora Delbert	406-276-3635	home school	SB 458		X
Wendy Pelt	406-452-6680	Home School	SB 458		X
Mark & Rake	406-467-2934	Self	SB 458		X

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**MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE**

VISITOR REGISTER

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

DATE 2/19/07 BILLS BEING HEARD
TODAY SB 458

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NAME	PHONE	REPRESENTING	BILL #	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Jill Stewart	276-3728	self	SB 458		X
Steve Bahnmiller	378-3257	self	SB 458		X
Michelle R. Bahnmiller	378-3257	SELF	SB 458		X
Steve F. Craig	734-5273	self	SB 458		X
Shelisa Craig	734-5273	self	SB 458		X
Tonya Lamparberger	754-0072	Self	SB 458		X
Vicki Brand	754-2915	self	SB 458		X
Paul Peck	681-3127	Self & Family	SB 458		X
Fred Skierka	456-3234	Self & Family	SB 458		X
Lara Faber	442-0546	self & Family (8)	SB 458		X
Tania Cheney	771-0748	Self & Family (4)	SB 458		X
Jennifer Geigle	761-2279	Self	SB 458		X
Rhonda Mallory	261-8116	Self	SB 458		X
Peg Mallory	261-8116	Self	SB 458		X
Remington Mallory	314-7255	Self	SB 458		X
Ransom Mallory	752-5319	Self	SB 458		X
Jessica Mallory	752-5314	Self & Family	SB 458		X
Jennifer Hayes	442-6494	Self & Family	SB 458		X
Christina Vestal	837-2323	Self	SB 458		X
Carol Cornstock	837-0823	Self & Family	SB 458		X
Patricia A. Baer	755-9455	Baer Family	SB 458		X

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**MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE**

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

VISITOR REGISTER

DATE 2/19/07

BILLS BEING HEARD TODAY SB 458

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NAME	PHONE	REPRESENTING	BILL #	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Kari Gerock	406-273-2547	My family	SB 458		✓
Jennifer Gibson	406/493-7036	My Family	SB 458		✓
K. Anna Lee	406-777-2253	My Family	SB 458		✓
Emily DeMyer	406-273-4635	My Family	SB 458		✓
Neta Bare	406-628-5830	My Family	SB 458		✓
Jay Goffena	406-777-5511	My Family	SB 458		✓
Eileen Davies	406-273-0100	My family	SB 458		✓
Bryan Farris	406-273-0100	My self	SB 458		✓
Annette Charn	406 295 8310	my family and God given rights	SB 458		✓
Harriet Johnson	406-449-1100	my Family & future	SB 458		✓
Doreen McPhee	406-490-1348	friends	SB 458		✓
Jamie Fuder	406-445-1515	family	SB 458		✓
Thelma Fuder	406-966-0242	family	SB 458		✓

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Montana State Senate
Visitors' Register

Senate Education COMMITTEE

Date 2/19/07

Bill Nos. SB 458 Sponsor(s) Don Ryan

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Name	Representing	Bill No.	Support	Oppose	Info.
SCOTT LINDGREN	Self	SB 458		X	
JAMES HOHN JR	FAMILY	SB 458		X	
Jodi Lindgren	Self	SB 458		X	
Georgia Lindgren	Self	SB 458		X	
Blair A. Carstensen	FAMILY/SELF	SB 458		X	
William A. Carstensen	Self	SB 458		X	
Carlin A. Carstensen	Self	SB 458		X	
Laurel Carstensen	Self	SB 458		X	
Megan Carstensen	Self	SB 458		X	
Chuck Elizabeth	Self	SB 458		X	
Ridge Mallory	Family	SB 458		X	
Jonathan Bryant	Family + self	SB 458		X	
Brandon Watkins	Self	SB 458		X	
TIMOTHY J. Hiebert	Family	SB 458		X	
Wendy Hiebert	Family	SB 458		X	
JARED HIEBERT	FAMILY	SB 458		X	
MARIA HOLLATZ					

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

**MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE**

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

VISITOR REGISTER

DATE 2-19-07

BILLS BEING HEARD TODAY SB 458

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NAME	PHONE	REPRESENTING	BILL #	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Phyllis & Keith Ratz	406-450-1138	Golden Horneschool	SB 458		✓
Eden Hays	781-8823	my family	SB 458		✓
Colly A Ward	222-1138	Hickory Homeschool	SB 458		✓
Kelsey Ward	222-1138	Hickory Homeschool	SB 458		✓
Michelle Norman	225-3624	my family	458		✓
Dawn Sherwood	225-3291	my family	458		✓
Stacy Hale	225-3448	my family	458		✓
Jane Johnston	458-8947	The Johnston Family	458		✓
Lanfer Sells	866-3570	The Sells Family	458		✓
RAYMOND HAUBRICH	581-5362	MYSELF + MY FUTURE	458		✓
Dale Rodwick	786-3773	Rodwick Acres Homeschool	458		✓
CHAD & ELIA MARTZ	677-0037	MY FAMILY	458		✓
Lyle & Lorraine Hostetter	227-8846	Family	458		✓
Allen & Cassie Smith	227-3308	Family	458		✓

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Visitors' Register

Education

COMMITTEE

Date 2-19-07

Bill Nos. JB 458

Sponsor(s) Sen. Ryan

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Montana State Senate
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Education COMMITTEE

Date 2-19-07

Bill Nos. SB 458 Sponsor(s) _____

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Name	Representing	Bill No.	Support	Oppose	Info.
George C. Kerr	Self	SB 458		X	
Margaret L. Stuart	Self	SB 458		X	
Melodie Kun	Self	SB 458		X	
Isaiah Kerr	self	SB 458		X	
gabe Kerr	self	SB 458		X	

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Montana State Senate Visitors' Register

Senate Education COMMITTEE

Date 2/19/07

Bill Nos. 457 Sponsor(s) Ryan

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Montana State Senate
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Date 2-19-07

Bill Nos. 458 Sponsor(s) Ryan

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Name	Representing	Bill No.	Support	Oppose	Info.
Ursula D. Martin	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Leah Robinson	homeschoolers	458		X	
Lindsay Robinson	homeschoolers	458		X	
Sue Hegg	Homeschoolers	458		X	

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Montana State Senate
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Senate ED COMMITTEE Date 2-19-07
Bill Nos. SB 458 Sponsor(s) Sen Ryan

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Name	Representing	Bill No.	Support	Oppose	Info.
Greg Hollatz	Self	458		X	
Terri L. Donaldson	Self	458		X	
Ty Sen Tuma	Self	458		X	
Karen P. DePaul	Self	458		X	
ROGER THOMPSON	SELF	458		X	

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**MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE**

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

VISITOR REGISTER

DATE 2-19-07
BILLS BEING HEARD TODAY SB 458

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NAME	PHONE	REPRESENTING	BILL #	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Rebecca Bitz	386-2426	Homeschoolers	HB0458		✓
Joellen Brennan	587-8292	Homeschoolers	HB0458		✓
Jeff Strong	595-2965	Non Public Education	HB0458		✓
Leanne Ockay-Webb	449-0126	home education	SB0458		✓
Kris Lohrl	338-5858	Self	SB458		✓
Holly Harris	873-4054	home education	SB458		✓
Don Harris	873-4054	Home education	SB458		✓
Andrew Jamieson	338-2771	Home school family	SB-458		✓
Rachel Jamieson	338-2771	"	SB 458		✓
Capole Solberg	866-3570	Home School	SB458		✓
Jan Solberg	866-3570	" "	SB458		✓
Barbara Asperig	873-4825	Home School	SB458		✓
Patricia Asperig	450-5992	Home School	SB458		✓
Brenda Asperig	873-4825	Home school	SB458		✓
Bruce Asperig	873-4825	Home School	SB458		✓
Vivian Heslep	933-9126	Home Education	SB458		✓
Jonathan Heslep	933-9126	Home Education	SB458		✓
JAY HESLEP	933-9126	HOME ED	SB458		✓
Maryellen Thompson	458-5195	Home Ed	SB458		✓
Therin Thompson	"	"			✓
Kelly Thompson	"	"			✓

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Montana State Senate
Visitors' Register

Senate COMMITTEE

Date Feb 19th, 2007

Bill Nos. SB 458 Sponsor(s) Ryan

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Name	Representing	Bill No.	Support	Oppose	Info.
Starr vanDalen	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Jeff Kremer	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Dora Kremer	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Gail Asbury	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Judith Manning	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Sarah R Harrington	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Leslie A Hamilton	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Laura Smith	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Mariah Smith	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Patricia Medoka	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Laura McDonald	homeschoolers	458		X	
Andrea Walker	homeschoolers	458		X	
Elizabeth Walker	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Debielle Walker	homeschoolers	458		X	
Rebekah Walker	homeschoolers	458		X	
Nes Anderson	homeschoolers	458		X	
Bernadette Anderson	Homeschooler	458		X	
Christie Suarez	homeschoolers	458		X	
Micah Thompson	homeschoolers	458		X	

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Montana State Senate
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Senate Ed. COMMITTEE

Date 2-19-07

Bill Nos. SB 458 Sponsor(s) Ryan

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Name	Representing	Bill No.	Support	Oppose	Info.
John Fenzlason	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Micah Seipel	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Adora Strable	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Tricia Cox	Homeschool	458		X	
Hannah Cox	Homeschool	458		X	
Irene Fenzlason	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Alicia Watts	Homeschoolers	458		X	
STAN JONES	My Country	458		X	
Paula Lantana	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Emilee Brinda	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Christi Brinda	Home-school	458		X	
Ariel Brinda	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Dean Brinda	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Hannah Zarr	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Sarah Zarr	Homeschoolers	458		X	
Lane Zarr	Homeschool	458		X	
Jake Vaccaro	Homeschool	458		X	
Jill Vaccaro	"	"		X	
Jesse Vaccaro	"	"		X	

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

Montana State Senate
Visitors' Register

Senate Education COMMITTEE

Date Feb. 19, 2007

Bill Nos. 458 Sponsor(s) Sen. Ryan

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

Name	Representing	Bill No.	Support	Oppose	Info.
Jeannette McJannet		458		X	
Nell Bazz	Home Schooler	458		X	
Matthew Johnson		458		X	
Joel Zarr		458		X	
Adeline Cooper	homeschooler	458		X	
Gabrielle Cooper		458		X	
Dorothy Furr	SELF	458		X	
Gretchen Stenson	homeschool	458		X	
Margaret McVeda	Homeschool	458		X	
Katie McVeda	self	458		X	
Brittany Jones	homeschool	458		X	
Debra Briscoe	self	458		X	
Carolyn Olsen	homeschool	458		X	
Janet Ann	Place of Refuge Friends	458		X	
Sue Lapka	Home School	458		X	
Marska Davis	L+C County	458			X
Michael E. Hollatz	homeschooler	458		X	
Katherine Hollatz	homeschooler	458		X	
Donald Nutter-Watkins	home school family	458		X	

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

**MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE**

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

VISITOR REGISTER

DATE Feb 19, 2006

BILLS BEING HEARD TODAY SB 458

PLEASE PRINT

NAME	PHONE	REPRESENTING	BILL #	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Karla Ayers	406-622-5250	Ayers Homeschool	458		✓
Karen Gillespie	622-5070	Home Educators of MT	458		✓
Becky Stockton	449-3670	my family	458		✓
Kevin Stump	723-4632	Home Educators / family	458		✓
Kristina Stump	723-4632	" "	458		✓
Lori Sauskajus	388-0053	Home Educators of MT	458		✓
Cindy Wright	388-2479	Home Educators of MT	458		✓
Andrew Metzger	475-3757	HOME EDUCATORS	458		✓
Aaron & Kristi Wheaton	546-3112	Home educators	458		✓
Tony & Jessica Solorzano	396-2277	Home educators	458		✓
Shelli Kew-Worley	244-2747	Home Educators	458		✓
Carolyn Olsen	273-0035	Home Educators MT	458		✓
Jessica Roedel	756-0801	Home Educators MT	458		✓
Jayson O'Hara	899-0404	Self & children	458		✓
Joan Dawson	761-3639	Self & children	458		✓
Andi Dawson	761-3639	Self & children	458		✓
Melinda Albers	406-458-0078	Self & children	458		✓
Mark Roedel	406-756-0801	Self	458		✓
John Barbagello	406-449-7864	FAMILY	458		✓
Elizabeth Hogenson	406-578-2347	Family	458		✓
Eric van Dalm	406-660-1075	Family	458		✓

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**MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE**

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

VISITOR REGISTER

DATE 2-19-07

BILLS BEING HEARD TODAY 458

PLEASE PRINT

NAME	PHONE	REPRESENTING	BILL #	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Viola Moss	293-2939	Home Education	458		✓
Amy McKinney	291-5414	Home Education	468		✓
Bridget Ervin	961-1319	Home Education	458		✓
Vanessa Lund	245-2980	Home Education - Yellowstone County	458		✓
BARBARA A. ALLEN	449-7513	Home Education	458		✓
GERARD TOKARSKI	698-1708	Home Education	458		✓
Dora Tokarski	698-1708	Home Education	458		✓
Joshua Tokarski	698-1708	Home Education	458		✓
Jonathan Tokarski	698-1708	Home Education	458		✓
Carrie Jones	254-4411	Home Education	458		✓
Katie Jones	254-9411	Home Education	458		✓
Penny Jones	254-9411	Home Education	458		✓
CLINT McGUIFFEY	822-1122	Home Education @ Mineral County	458		✓
Keith Simmons	258-2924	Home School	SB458		✓
Nancy Simmons	258-2929	Home School	458		✓
Charity Simmons	258-2929	Home School	458		✓
Kaylee Beth Simmons	258-2929	Home School	458		✓
RANDY C. Vannoy	728-4078	Home school	SB458		✓
Josiah E. Vannoy	728-4076	Home school	SB458		✓
Kirk Simmons	258-2924	Home school	SB458		✓
Journey Ranger	549-5432	Home school	SB458		✓

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Montana State Legislature

Addition Documents

THESE DOCUMENTS WERE SUBMITTED AFTER
THE HEARING ON SB 458 – 2/19/07
IT INCLUDES

- PHONE MESSAGES REGARDING SB 458
INTENDED FOR SEN. DON RYAN SEAT
NO.# 49
- INTERNET MESSAGES REGARDING SB 458
INTENDED FOR SEN DON RYAN SEAT
NO.# 49

**The originals can be
viewed at the Montana
Historical Society.**

**Montana Historical Society
Archives
225 N. Roberts
Helena MT 59620-1201
Phone (406) 444-4774
2007 Legislative Scanner Susie Hamilton**

MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME Sue Hegg
ADDRESS 1100 El Paso Dr., Great Falls, MT
HOME PHONE 406-761-3806 WORK PHONE 59464
REPRESENTING ~~1100 El Paso Dr.~~ Homeschools
APPEARING ON WHICH BILL ~~#~~ SB 458
DO YOU: SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE X AMEND _____

COMMENTS (OPTIONAL):

Statement attached

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Windows Live™ Mail
Beta

Print Close Window

Cameron Parham (csmenagerie22@msn.com)

11:56 AM 2/19/07

To: csmenagerie22@msn.com

Subject: SB458

Dear Senators:

Senate Bill 458 is both discriminatory and wasteful. One need not support homeschooling to oppose SB 458; one need only oppose discrimination and wasteful, vague, and pointless legislation. Let's look at the discrimination problem first. There are three forms of education in Montana: public schools, nonpublic (private) schools, and homeschools. To avoid discrimination, all students should have the same deadlines for declaring where and how their education will proceed in any given year. A student may, at this time, plan to attend a private school and at the last moment decide to attend public school, and vice versa. They need not notify or register by the pointless date of one week prior to the start of the public schools' fiscal year. This is discriminatory.

As to the problems with waste: There is already adequate legislation regarding homeschooling. All legislators have an obligation to evaluate any bill thus: is it needed? Since all legislation impacts the citizens of Montana financially and with respect to time spent to learn the law, administer the law, adhere to the law, and possibly punish infractions, whether it's NEEDED should be a very important question. This bill is wasteful of Montana's citizen's time, including the time of county superintendents, the time of its private citizens, and possibly the time of law enforcement personnel. There is no point in changing laws that are working.

As a physician, I must make decisions daily which impact the life and health of others. These decisions should be based on the most extensive data available in the body of medical, social, and psychological research. To best honor the trust placed in me by patients, I can not just follow my own impulses or preconceived ideas. Decisions on legislation carry this same responsibility, and should be made based on the best available data, not based on intuitive preconceptions or anecdotes. Regardless of any one person's comfort level with the idea of homeschooling, there is tremendous data available to support its soundness educationally and as a preparation for college and adult life. This copious research has been carried out by independent, non-homeschooling researchers with excellent credentials, and by researchers with excellent credentials who have chosen to homeschool. This research repeatedly demonstrates the following: homeschoolers do a bit better than public school children on standardized tests; homeschoolers have excellent social skills; homeschoolers have a high rate of acceptance to college. Repeated research has failed to show any higher incidence of child abuse or neglect, antisocial tendencies, or violence, and has shown a low rate of dependence on welfare programs. All legislators confronted with proposed legislation have a real obligation to base their response to any proposal upon the best available data. Even if there are a lot of decisions to be made under pressure (I am familiar with that!). We citizens are counting on you to do it. It is based on my review of this literature that I state: Our current laws on homeschooling are helping our homeschoolers to do a good job, and it is wasteful and pointless to add this change.

As to the bill's vagueness: In the first paragraph reference is made to a requirement that parents "provide information relating to home school instruction" but this is never mentioned again. The intent here is very vague. As to the deadline of registering one week before the public schools' fiscal year-start: who will enforce this? What are the consequences for a family who decides to homeschool in August, or a family which has always homeschooled and moves to Montana in October, or a family in which an emergency delays registration? None are specified. Of course if any consequences are meted out they must be meted out against public school students and private school students also, to avoid discrimination. And who takes on the job of bringing these consequences to bear? Someone gets extra work here, for a law which seems rather pointless. Homeschoolers have no relationship to the fiscal year of public schools.

The current bill says that homeschoolers must notify the county superintendant of intent to homeschool. The proposed legislation would change that to the need to register. I question that again as vague. If there is no difference between notification and registration, why spend legislators' time on changing that wording? And if there is a difference for Montana's citizens, what is the difference, and why is it not specified?

Without knowing this how can you make a good decision? The issues of specifying that the parent responsible must provide his or her address and that of the children is also vague in its intent. Presumably when notification of intent to homeschool is given, some identifying characteristics of the family are given, otherwise how would the superintendent know who has given notification? The legislation is rather pointless here too. People who have refused to notify the superintendant are not going to jump forward if the word is changed to "register." And again, similar registration data must be demanded of nonpublic students (which it currently isn't) as well as public students to avoid discrimination. And again, who enforces this, and how do you justify the need for them to spend their time this way?

Please carefully consider whether SB 458 is in the best interest of the citizens of Montana. I believe it is not.

Sincerely,

Cameron S. Parham, MD

Havre, MT

925 4th Ave
Havre, MT 59501
Feb. 18th, 2007

Dear Senator,

Are you prepared to answer for the legal ramifications (including the appearance of discrimination) which SB458 may entail?

My children are not wards of the state: nor does the government subsidize my children's education. Logically then, the state should not bear the responsibility of my children's education. Obviously, in order for the public school system to run efficiently, students must be registered so that they can be assigned to the correct grade, appropriate records can be kept, and so on. This is true of many organizations a person may choose to participate in. Our educational decisions for our children have not included participation in public education and therefore, no basis exists for registering our children with the public education system.

Over and over again, home education has proven itself to be not only a viable, but successful form of education. Studies consistently show home school students' scores are significantly higher than their public school counterparts. It has also been proven that government regulation does not increase the effectiveness of a home school. The study "Strengths of Their Own: Home Schools Across America" conducted by Dr. Brian Ray of the National Institute of Home School Research indicates that home school students from states which regulated home schools showed the same test scores as home schooled students from states which did not regulate home schools. In addition, a study called "Home Schooling Grows Up" (also done by the NIHSR) of home school graduates found that as adults these individuals were more likely to continue their education, read for enjoyment, vote, participate in civic matters, and feel more satisfaction with life than public school graduates.

Given the abundance of well documented evidence, one must wonder what the real agenda is behind this and other attempts at regulating home schools.

Finally, we have a home school law on the books which has proven itself successful. Why fix what isn't broken?

Sincerely,

Georgina Kaftan

Bernadette (Berni) Anderson
510 10th ST
Havre, MT 59501

To:

Sen. Don Ryan (D) - Chairman, 10th District
Sen. Jerry Black (R), 14th District
Sen. Jim Elliott (D), 7th District
Sen. Bob Hawks (D), 33rd District
Sen. Carol Juneau (D), 8th District
Sen. Sam Kitzenberg (D), 18th District
Sen. Dan McGee (R), 29th District
Sen. Jim Peterson (R), 15th District
Sen. Robert Story (R), 30th District

Dear Honorable Senator (s):

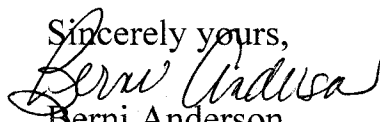
I oppose Senate bill 458.

Please vote against Senate Bill 458, which would require homeschool Students to register with the county superintendent the same as public school students. This would effectively destroy homeschooling in Montana by turning homeschool students into public school students with all of the attendant state control.

It would also unfairly entitle local school districts to receive state funds for homeschool students in the same amounts as for regular public school students, even though the school districts provided no services to the homeschool students.

I have four adult children, of which three were homeschooled, and I believe the homeschooling laws that are currently in place are working well in Montana and that they are sufficient to satisfy both the reporting and intent of homeschoolers. My only regret is that we didn't homeschool all four of them.

Sincerely yours,


Berni Anderson

Les Anderson
510 10th ST
Havre, MT 59501

To:

Sen. Don Ryan (D) - Chairman, 10th District
Sen. Jerry Black (R), 14th District
Sen. Jim Elliott (D), 7th District
Sen. Bob Hawks (D), 33rd District
Sen. Carol Juneau (D), 8th District
Sen. Sam Kitzenberg (D), 18th District
Sen. Dan McGee (R), 29th District
Sen. Jim Peterson (R), 15th District
Sen. Robert Story (R), 30th District

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Sincerely yours,


Les Anderson

MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME Viola & Darryl Moss
ADDRESS 68 Vicks Lane, Libby, MT 59923
HOME PHONE 406-293-2939 WORK PHONE _____
REPRESENTING Self & Libby Home Educators
APPEARING ON WHICH BILL SB 458
DO YOU: SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE ☒ AMEND _____

COMMENTS (OPTIONAL):

We have home educated our children since 1990 & plan to do so until 2020 and hope our children are legally able to educate their children with the same past freedoms. We oppose SB 458 as it limits & restrains our current liberties to home educate. More laws take away more freedoms from its citizens and costs the taxpayers more money. The motivation for SB 458 can only be an effort to take more freedoms & put chains on parents to restrict their ability to raise and educate their children to serve their country for their future stations. Our ancestors came here, many fleeing persecution, in order to be able to worship & exercise their beliefs. It is our belief, duty & command to have total responsibility & control over our children's education. SB 458 leaves great potential to take that ability away from us, making our children public school students raised & taught & directed by the state. We humbly ask that you allow us to continue to be

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY

good citizens without enslaving us & our children to be dictated by the state of Montana.

1801 Blankenbaker Road
Big Sandy, MT 59520-8400
February 18, 2007

Senator Don Ryan
Senate Education Committee
P.O. Box 200500
Helena, MT 59620-0500

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Please vote against Senate Bill 458 which would require homeschool families to register with the county superintendent the same as public school students.

SB 458 would effectively destroy homeschooling in Montana by turning homeschool students in to public school students with all of the attendant state control. It would also unfairly entitle local school districts to receive state funds for homeschool students in the same amounts as for regular public school students, even though the school districts provided no services to the homeschool student.

SB 458 holds homeschool families to a different standard than government schools and is discriminatory by doing so.

SB 458 will effectively increase taxes on the taxpayers of this state without providing them with any benefit other than requiring more bureaucracy for the county superintendent.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle Bahn Miller".

Michelle Bahnmiller

1801 Blankenbaker Road
Big Sandy, MT 59520-8400
February 18, 2007

Senator Don Ryan
Senate Education Committee
P.O. Box 200500
Helena, MT 59620-0500

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SB 458 holds homeschool families to a different standard than government schools and is discriminatory by doing so.

SB 458 will effectively increase taxes on the taxpayers of this state without providing them with any benefit other than requiring more bureaucracy for the county superintendent.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Steven Bahnmitter".

Steven Bahnmitter

Dear Senator,

I am writing to address the issue of Senate Bill 458, which, in my opinion as both a citizen and a home-schooled student, is a gross abuse of state power.

My name is Skye Anderson, I am fourteen years old and have been home schooled throughout my life, and have found it to be an extremely enriching experience. It has allowed me to associate with not only others of my own age but also adults and younger children in real-life encounters, not just in the classroom or mentoring programs. I have also been able to pursue my personal interests such as entomology and forensic science as extra projects and take more time in areas that I have difficulties with. While I understand that not all families find home schooling to be the most appropriate option for them, I do not see the reasons or the rationality behind this attack on those of us who have chosen it as our way of life.

This bill is not concerned with modifying the duties of the county superintendent, but with limiting the ability of the parents to choose the way in which their child is raised. The proposed changes could authorize the county superintendent not only to prevent parents educating their children themselves, but also require that the home-schooled children register under the public schools system, allowing them to receive funds for students for which they are not providing services. This is undeniably an attempt to undermine the parents' authority over their child's education, a right clearly defined in the constitution and upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court, and would open the door to abuse of taxpayers' money. The current laws concerning home-schooling families has, and continues to serve its purpose and needs no modification. I am strongly opposed to this bill and ask your support in preventing this unjustified encroachment on parental rights in Montana from taking root in our laws.

Sincerely,

Skye Anderson
Skye Anderson

Feb. 19, 2007

Dear Senator,

SB458 seeks to change the terms of the current homeschool law from "notify the county superintendent" to "register with the county superintendent", and gives a deadline. While this may seem a small change, it not only makes new demands on superintendents, it also begins to change the authority over homeschools from parents to county superintendents. This effectively restricts the fundamental right of parents to direct the education of their children. Please vote no on SB458.

Homeschooling is a valid educational option and should remain open to those parents who choose to use it. Statistics clearly indicate its success with students of a wide range of skill levels and abilities. Public school success has been shown in many studies to be directly correlated to income level, however in homeschooling, academic achievement is independent of income, race, or location. Multiple studies have indicated the strongest predictor of educational success is interested and involved parents. Homeschool parents are dedicated, hard-working people who are deeply invested in their children and their futures.

With the vague terms proposed by SB458, it's unclear what the superintendent is to do in the "registration" process, or how it is to be monitored. Future and more controlling legislation would be inevitable. County superintendents already have a significant job working with their own students. Homeschooling works as is in Montana and academics are not improved by increased regulation. It's quite clear the bill is unneeded, requires time and money resources of public school systems, and provides no actual benefit to anyone.

As a responsible citizen, I appreciate the ability to participate in the legislative process by communicating with lawmakers. Please vote no to SB458.

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine Anderson". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid.

Catherine Anderson

Dear Senator,

I am writing in regards to Senate Bill 458. I am opposed to this bill because I feel that it constricts the rights of parents to freely choose the best form of education for their children.

My name is Jesse Anderson and I am 17 years old. I have been home schooled all of my life. Because of this wonderful opportunity, I have been able to participate in many activities that I would not have been able to do had I been educated in some other way. I have always thought that American Sign Language (ASL) was a very beautiful language and have always appreciated it. I wanted ASL to be my high school language, because I am home schooled I was able to take ASL for 2 years; I met some very kind and loving people through this. I have also been able to assist in raising and training a service dog. Although she didn't make it all the way through due to hip dysplasia, I gained a great amount of knowledge. I now better appreciate the challenges that people with disabilities go through every day. Since then my mother and I have become Certified Therapy Dog handlers. We go regularly to visit an 8th grade Special Education class at one of the schools in town. It has been a wonderful experience for us and the kids that we go to visit.

I have had the opportunity to serve neighbors by baby-sitting, shoveling snow and mowing lawns, I have even been invited to help at a neighbor's wedding. I also have been left in charge of houses and animals while the owners are on vacation or are out of state for family emergencies. Some of the people I have worked for include a retired military officer, a department head of the State Crime Lab, a police officer, nurse, retired and active mill workers, and a retired pilot. If I were not home schooled I would not have been able to participate in these things. I am very thankful for the freedom to home school and would like to be able to give my kids as good an education as my parents have given me.

Please don't restrict the opportunity for kids, and parents, to have this wonderful experience. Please vote against Senate Bill 458.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse Anderson".

Jesse Anderson

Committee Member,

I am opposed to the proposed changes SB458 would make to sections 20-3-205 and 20-5-109, MCA.


As the current law reads homeschool parents are required to notify the county superintendent of schools of their intent to homeschool their child. I see no benefit to requiring the county superintendent to "register" each student that is to be homeschooled. What I do see is a means to gain control over those that choose to homeschool. The parents of a child are responsible for the education of that child, not the county superintendent. This addition is the start of making the county superintendent the responsible party for the homeschool not the parents. This effectively removes the right of the parent to direct the education of their child. Future changes to the duties of the county superintendent with respect to "registered" students could infringe on the right of the parents to direct their child's education and ultimately take total control of the homeschool. This is unacceptable.

I see no reason to add a date by which the parent must notify the county superintendent of their intent to homeschool their child. It must already be done for each school fiscal year. This new wording does not state what the ramifications are for not notifying by said date. This makes for a bad law.

The requirement to have the name and address of the parent or legal guardian who is providing the student's homeschool instruction is not even a reasonable request when it is coming from a source that is not responsible for that education. The parent or legal guardian is the one responsible for their child's education and they alone need to know who is providing the instruction.

I see no benefit to SB458 and urge you to vote against this bill.

Thank you for your time and service


Benton Anderson

To: Member of the Senate Education Committee
From: Joel R. Zarr, Home school father, Montana Taxpayer and Business Owner
Re: Senate Bill SB458



Dear Honorable Members of the Education Senate Committee,

Let me begin by saying my remarks while addressed to the entire committee are specifically intended to Senator Ryan. You have heard and will continue to hear today why this bill is not necessary and an affront on the rights of parents to teach their children, I would like to emphasize another aspect of this bill.

You are all aware of the success of home schooling in Montana and throughout the nation so I ask why are we wasting your valuable time and the States precious resources addressing Senator Ryan's continued harassment and vindictiveness against those of us who have dedicated ourselves to the teaching of our children. The use of legislative time to address this issue is a frivolous use of our taxpayer's money and the time of the dedicated parents you see before you and those who could not attend today.

The State of Montana and specifically, the state of public education has many pressing issues we need your time spent on. But yet once again we have to spend time on an issue that is clearly not a problem for this committee to spend their valuable time on because of one individual's vindictiveness and abuse of his legislative position.

The schools are already screaming for more money but yet Senator Ryan once to add to their burden another task that they have to oversee, track and respond to non-compliance. If it even cost 1 cent more, it is more money then is needed to be spent on something that is as frivolous as what Senator Ryan is asking to be incorporated into laws. I asked and encourage each of you to take a stand against such unnecessary legislation and get to the serious matters confronting education in Montana and throughout the United States. So we can all move forward to legislation that may solve a problem I would ask that one of the committee members call for a vote to defeat SB458 immediately.

February 19, 2007

Dear Senators of the Education Committee,

I'm writing to you today to ask you not to support SB458. SB458 would require home educators to register their students with the county superintendent a minimum of 7 days prior to the beginning of the public school district's fiscal year. This bill, while seemingly innocent poses a great threat to the Montana home school community.

First of all, while many citizens of the state of Montana home school and have home schooled for many years, there are citizens who are debating whether or not to being educating their children at home. It is my belief that few of these people would feel that they had sufficient time to satisfactorily decide the matter and register by the June 23 deadline. SB458 assumes that if a home school is not registered by the June 23 deadline, it will not be allowed to operate and the children it services will have to be enrolled in a public or private school. Should parents be punished just for taking time to consider what form of education is best suited to their child's needs? I hope that wouldn't happen in Montana.

Secondly, registering with the county superintendent, as opposed to notifying him or her, puts a death grip on homeschool freedom. Section 20-5-111 of the Montana Code clearly states, "A parent has the authority to instruct his child, stepchild, or ward in a home school and is solely responsible..." SB458, while not actually amending the Montana Code in this area, can be construed as requiring home schooled students to be registered students of the public school system. It undoubtedly will be construed in this way, which will lead to lengthy and costly lawsuits, which many of the people of Montana can not afford. Furthermore, if home school students would be thought of as public school students receiving their education at home, the state immediately has control over everything that MCA 20-5-111 determines is the parent's sole right. This would greatly curtail the liberty that Montana has always enjoyed and been proud of.

Also, if home school students are registered as public school students, public schools can no longer deny home school students the use of their facilities, a place on their academic teams, or access to their extra-curricular activities. I know that there are many public schools which would be loath to comply with this provision. This would most likely result in more lawsuits, this time against the school districts, at the state's expense.

Finally, homeschooling does not need fixed. It's not broken. Students home schooled in Montana go on to attend college and succeed, even excel, in the workforce. Home school students from Montana, on average, have higher test scores on nationally recognized tests than do their public school counterparts. Why fix something that is not broke? Please keep Montana the liberty loving state it has always been by voting against SB458. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jillisa Stewart
711 Sunset West
Dillon, MT 59725

Dear Senators,

Please vote against Senate Bill 458. This bill would reduce the rights and choices parents have for their children's education.

I have three children between the ages of 7 and 13. My youngest two children are in public school because I believe that is what is best for them at this time. Each child is an individual who has different learning styles, skills and personality. I felt it was in my 7th grade son's best interest to begin homeschooling him half way through the 6th grade. I am very thankful that I had the choice to do that because he has excelled academically and socially in the last year. In one year he has advanced in math so well that he is currently using a 9th grade algebra book. People who have known my son for years comment on how his self confidence has increased in the last year. He most likely will attend public high school, but for now, homeschooling is the best choice.

If this bill had been effect last year, I would not have had the choice to homeschool him because I would have missed the registration deadline. I should have the choice to make the best decision for the education of each of my children.

Thank you,

Leslie Hamilton

5580 Deer LN

Florence, MT 59833

February 19, 2007

Montana Senate
Post Office Box 200500
Helena, MT 59620-0500

Senate Education Committee,

My name is Andrew Metroka and I would like to thank the members of the Senate Education Committee for the opportunity to speak on SB458.

I would first like to thank you for making it your goal to represent the people of Montana. I have had the opportunity to travel to many countries around the world. Because of the selfless dedication of men and women like you we are fortunate to be living in the best country in the world!

I am a graduate of the United State Naval Academy and have served a number of years in our nation's submarine force. My duties while serving were to protect and defend the constitution of the United States and the freedoms of our nation.

More recently, every two years I find myself before this committee defending the freedoms of home-schooled families. I believe home schooling is a viable alternative to the public education system. My wife and I have home schooled our four children for the past 11 years. Our oldest son graduated from our home school last year and is now attending the United States Air Force Academy where he will continue to protect the freedoms of this country. I understand there is a concern for those instances where home schooling is not successful. Our natural tendency as compassionate people is to protect against these occurrences. The bittersweet reality of freedom is that freedom not only provides the freedom to succeed, but also the freedom to fail. When we restrict freedoms by imposing a floor to protect against failure, we automatically impose a ceiling on the freedom to succeed. We have demonstrated over the history of this nation that we as a people prefer to take the risks associated with freedom. The benefits of accepting these risks are evident by the achievements of this great nation in which we now live. The benefits of the freedom to home school are also evident by any standard of measurement as documented in numerous studies.

My request is simple. I urge you not to erode with a stroke of a pen, those freedoms that have been paid for by the blood of our countrymen.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to voice my opposition to SB458.

Sincerely,



Andrew F. Metroka

Honorable chairman and members of the education committee;

My name is Becky Stockton and I reside in Helena, Montana. I am here today to ask the committee to please vote against SB 458 which would require home schooling parents to register their home schooling students with their present county superintendent just like a parent enrolls their children in a public school.


First of all, we already have a notification law that works well. Why do we need to change a system that currently works for the home schooling community and the county superintendents? There are no indications that the county superintendents or the parents were having a problem in notifying the correct official that they are home schooling their children for Senator Ryan to propose that this requirement needs to be changed in the current statue from notification to registering.

Second, requiring parents to register their students with the county superintendent a week prior to the school district's fiscal year on July 1 would hinder parents who move to Montana any other time during the year except between June 23 and July 1. According to the language in this bill, this requirement would FORCE the parent to enroll their children in a public school and essentially putting the student in a learning institution that the parent thought would not be in the best interest for their child or have the adequate education requirements that the parent was seeking for their children. It also takes away the freedom the parent has to educate their children as they see fit. This freedom is present in the 1st amendment of the U.S. Constitution and should not be infringed upon. The present wording in SB 458 would essentially eliminate home schooling, private schooling and the parents right to choose what education is best for their children when in fact it is currently legal in the state of Montana for the parent to choose what form of education suits their child best.

If this law passes it would make home schools essentially accountable to the public school, which in turn means control of their curriculum, the educational philosophy of the home school, the time, place and method of instruction; and the evaluation of the home school instruction and standardized testing. This also would mean that the public school would receive state funding from these students with no services returned to the parent to use in their home school. It also would require a lot more money from the taxpayers to run this system and would be a huge rip-off for the taxpayers.

As stated, I respectfully ask the committee to vote no on this legislation. Thank you for giving me the time to speak today on this issue.

Sincerely,



Becky Stockton
1430 Boston Rd.
Helena, MT 59602
406/449-3670

JEANINE OCKEY WEBB

316 Oregon St. #2
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 449-0126

February 19, 2007

Dear Senate Education Committee Members,

It is critically important that you **oppose Senate Bill 458**.

As a homeschooling mother of three, I am adamantly opposed to all parts of this bill because it seeks to destroy my role as a teaching parent. Under this bill I would be required to *register* my children with the county superintendent. This is a fundamental change from current homeschool law, which requires that I *notify* the superintendent. *"Registering" my students could be construed in such a way as to make them public school students.* I could then be required to meet all the requirements of public schools in curriculum and other areas. The state could then be held responsible for my students' progress through the No Child Left Behind Act, a legislative headache school districts do not need further intensified. Additionally, it would mean that the school district could **bill the state government** for the per student allotment they get for all registered students, regardless of the fact that there would be **no benefit to the registered student by the use of that state money**. This likely would have **substantial negative and perhaps unintended impacts on the state budget**.

Senate Bill 458 seeks to outlaw homeschooling in the state of Montana. We would be the only state in the country with such a statute, and this would almost certainly **tie up school districts in costly litigation for years**. This bill is unnecessary, redundant (notification is already required), and a waste of time for the Senate, for homeschoolers and for the public school administrators who could be called upon to enforce it and deal with its ramifications under No Child Left Behind, and then defend themselves in court. This bill is **not in the best interest of public education**.

Montanans have long prided ourselves on our independent spirit. This bill seeks to destroy that. To require all children to learn in the same way denies the individuality of children and the rights of parents.

If this bill becomes law my family plans to pursue litigation and would strongly consider moving from Montana.

I urge you to **vote it down!**

Sincerely,



Jeanine Ockey Webb

19 February 2007

Subject SB 458

Senator Ryan and members of the committee, I wish to express my opposition to SB 458. This bill will do nothing to improve the quality of home or public education.

Current Montana law, as written, is adequate to provide the county with all information necessary to complete their requirements. This bill requires gathering additional information- but for what purpose?

Will "Registering" a student change the quality of their education? No, but it can be construed to give the county more legal standing, and the ability to interfere with the rights of home-educating parents.

Will "Registering" a student entitle the county to receive tax dollars for a student to whom they provide no services? If so, this is fraud and abuse.

I urge you to reject SB 458.

Thank you for your consideration.



Mark Roedel

PO Box 9726

Kalispell, MT 59904

Joellen L. Brennan
188 Sacajawea Peak Dr.
Bozeman, MT 59718

February 19, 2007

Dear Senate Education Committee,

I have been a homeschooling parent for six years. I have also taught in the public and the private sectors. Currently I educate my own children and tutor children from the public system. In addition, my children have participated in the public, private, and homeschool setting. Quality education is a prime concern of mine, not only for my children, but for all children.

I have often heard, "I am the parent, and I know what is best for my child." This statement carries such weight in the medical and legal systems that professionals, in most cases, are not permitted to intervene with a child without parental consent. When a parent registers and enrolls their child in a public or private school setting, the parent delegates the education of his child to the public or private system. These parents delegate their personal responsibility of providing quality education for their child. Some parents choose not to delegate this responsibility.

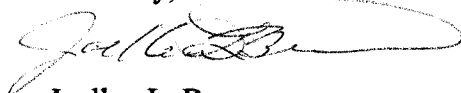
Parents of home educated children not only take responsibility for their children, but are adamant about quality of education and expansion of their children's horizons. Homeschooling parents spend weeks researching curriculum that best meets the educational and developmental needs of their children. Each child has a unique learning style. Parents seek out curriculum that meets each of these unique needs, often using multiple methods to meet the needs of their different children. They do this all at their own expense, often sacrificing the income of one parent.

Senate Bill 0458 requirement of homeschools to register with their county superintendent undermines parental responsibility. The children arguably become enrolled in the public schools. As public school students, the public system forcibly takes away the responsibility of a parent to educate their child, subjecting homeschools to submit to requirements the public school system sees fit. This may include public school curriculum that does not meet the needs of the learner, and standardized testing not appropriate to the developmental needs of the student.

Finally, formal registration would entitle school districts to receive funding per home educated student for a service the district does not provide. It is illegal for every other industry to charge for a service not provided. Taxpayers should not be paying for a service they are not receiving.

I ask, as a dedicated home educator who has witnessed the success of home education, and as a taxpayer, that you vote against SB0458 and encourage your colleagues to do the same.

Sincerely,



Joellen L. Brennan

Elizabeth Brennan
188 Sacajawea Peak Dr.
Bozeman, MT 59718

February 18, 2007

Dear Senate Education Committee,

My name is Elizabeth Brennan, I am eighteen years old and have been homeschooled for the majority of my education. Even though I have been in and out of public and private schools, I believe my decision to be home educated for my last two years of highschool has been the most impactful decision I have made in my young life.

Having been educated for four years outside of my home, I was appalled at my lack of knowledge when I returned home. I was frustrated at having to re-learn four years of English, literature, social studies, geography, history and mathematics all in one year. When I realized I had been shortchanged in my education, I was furious. I had an "A-" average while attending school outside my home. By my school's standard I was doing well, but in reality, I was lacking knowledge vital to my future. I had been receiving my education from State approved curriculum by State certified teachers, and it failed me. I had been fooled by the system. I thought I was doing well, and my future bright. By State standard I was college bound, by national standards, I was a poorly educated young lady.

I realized how poorly I had been educated when I returned to home education. I have reclaimed my education by working hard and using a curriculum with high standards for students, quality video teachers, and the ongoing support of my parents. My knowledge and understanding of all subjects has increased a thousand fold; my confidence and maturity have improved dramatically.

The proposal before you, SB0458, is a threat to home education and the families that have taken full responsibility for educating their children. Requiring homeschooling families to register with the public schools means tax dollars will be spent on a service the schools are not providing, neither educationally, nor to the home educated students. Clearly the State approved curriculum that may be required for all homeschooling families do not meet the needs of the youth of Montana. Home educated children are sought after by colleges, military academies, and other types of higher education. Let us not change that.

Proposal SB0458 will cripple the youth of Montana. This means crippling future doctors, social workers, pastors, teachers, senators, representatives, and possibly a future President. This proposal will devastate the education of many of our State's youth. The youth of Montana are our future. Nothing should inhibit their education wether they are publically, privately or home educated. Remember, the youth you are impacting now, will be the legislators impacting your lives in the future.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth C. Brennan

Steve A. Knoll
Jill D. Knoll
PO Box 537
Corvallis, MT 59828

February 19, 2007

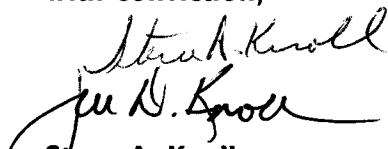
Senator Don Ryan
Montana State Capitol
Helena, MT

Senator Ryan,

Your continual attempts to hinder the liberties of Home Educating families in the state of Montana must stop. As confirmed two years ago, the vast majority of Home Educating parents are responsible, intelligent and law-abiding citizens who live exemplary lives and train their children to be an asset to society as they hold the same values held by their parents. Time and resources are valuable in the governmental system and unnecessary endeavors only subtract from the attention that could otherwise be directed towards real issues. Legislation such as Bill 458 only works to weigh down and corrode the productivity of our governmental system.

It is alarming that written into your bill is the deceptive measure of obtaining state funds by using our liberties as a bargaining chip. Why must you perpetually undermine the very preservation of a society that is based on the highest value of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for *a//* citizens therein?

With Conviction,



Steve A. Knoll
& Jill D. Knoll

Jonathan Barbagello
Helena, Montana

Opponent to SB 458

Mr. Chairman for the record my name is Jonathan Barbagello and I live in Senate District 42 just outside of Helena.

Mr Chairman, members of this committee, I am an opponent of SB 458 because it heartlessly attacks home educators. SB 458 would require home educators to register their name and address, as well as their child's name and address with the county superintendent of schools at least seven days before the start of the school fiscal year.

Because the current school fiscal year has already begun and this bill goes into effect immediately on passage and approval, it places all children being home educated in the state of Montana in jeopardy of truancy according to 20-5-106 MCA.

This places many of your fellow Montanan's who choose to home educate their children, in an impossible situation. I want to stress that I am not asking for the amendment of this bill. It is not in need of amendment, it needs to be killed.

Senator Ryan, the instances you have cited to support severe regulation and indeed elimination of homeschooling are extreme cases. They are not mainstream. They are not even a small minority. They are instances of the most rare occurrence. We are not criminals endeavoring to slip through a loophole in an exsisting law. On the contrary, we are honest law abiding citizens.

Home educators in Montana, believe they can and should provide the best possible education for their children. National studies have repeatedly shown home school children performing at advanced levels when compared with national educational standards. The choices they have made for their children educationally, reflect the deepest possible care and concern for their children's education and development.

In closing I want to stress that this bill is unfair to home schoolers and thereby, all Montanans.

Therefore, I strongly urge you to immediately table this bill.

Thank you very much.

February 19, 2007

Dear Senator:

First, regarding SB 458, June 23 is an inappropriate deadline. Also, SB 458 uses the term register. Homeschoolers notify; they do not register. Ethically, our government schools should not receive money for homeschool students, whom they do not educate. (As an aside, neither should they unethically receive 70% of the communistic property tax.) The government schools need a lesson in economics—really, how much more money? Senator Ryan needs to get his government school money in a legitimate manner.

What is Ryan's
motive?
Why has he
caused trouble
three times?

Sincerely,
Pettie M. Baer

February 19, 2007

Dear Senator

Please vote against Senate Bill 458, in its entirety, which would require Home School students to register with the County Superintendent, the same as public school students. We believe it has the potential to destroy Home Schooling in Montana, as we know it today. And you legislators have a better understanding of its fiscal impact than we would!

The present Home School laws have served our family well ... please do not "fix" what is not "broken". We began Home Schooling 20 years ago. Our 3 older children were Home Schooled through their high school years. Tara has a Bachelor of Business degree, Travis has a Master's in Engineering, and Todd is a successful, self-employed business person. All 3, with their families, are presently living in the Gallatin Valley, and contributing to its economic and social/cultural welfare. They too are hoping to Home School their children under the present favorable Home School laws. (3 grandchildren, so far!)

We have 2 younger, adopted, special needs daughters still at home. We accessed public school services for them, and had mixed results, from "OK" to terrible! The public school system is not able to respond well to individual needs, which is why we are once again having to seek other means of education for our girls.

It seems to us, that this bill would further burden an already overworked public school administration with added duties and responsibilities. (Who will fund that?) We strongly feel these duties and responsibilities belong to the parents, and should be left there.

As I wrote in testimony 2 years ago, please spend your time and the State's money to make the public school system the best it can be ... make it a place we Home Schoolers will want to send our children to.

Please vote against Senate Bill 458, in its entirety

Sincerely,

Ronald Baar *Nell Baar*

Ronald and Nell Baar
10787 Little Holland Road
Manhattan, Montana 59741
406-282-7933

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

NAME James A. Baldwin
ADDRESS P.O. Box 406 A/Baldwin, MT 59820
HOME PHONE 722-3607 WORK PHONE 722-4413
REPRESENTING MHSA Vice President
APPEARING ON WHICH BILL 457
DO YOU: SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE ☒ AMEND _____

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY

MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME WILLIAM J. FEASTER
ADDRESS 111 SAGE MEADOW CIR. - WHITEHALL
HOME PHONE 490-9351 WORK PHONE —
REPRESENTING SELF
APPEARING ON WHICH BILL 458
DO YOU: SUPPORT — OPPOSE ✓ AMEND —

COMMENTS (OPTIONAL):

STRONGLY APPOSE

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY

MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME JULIE FEASTER
ADDRESS 111 SAGE MEADOW CIR. - WHITEHALL
HOME PHONE 490-9352 WORK PHONE _____
REPRESENTING SELF
APPEARING ON WHICH BILL 458
DO YOU: SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE ☒ AMEND _____

COMMENTS (OPTIONAL):

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PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY

MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME Justin W. Lewis

ADDRESS 100 Lonesome Elk Rd.

HOME PHONE (406) 498-7486 WORK PHONE (406) 494-1157

REPRESENTING Jefferson County

APPEARING ON WHICH BILL 458

DO YOU: SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE X AMEND _____

COMMENTS (OPTIONAL):

Justin Lewis

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY

MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE

2007

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME Stephan J Shank

ADDRESS 211 Upper Rader Creek

HOME PHONE (406) 484-1157 WORK PHONE _____

REPRESENTING Jefferson County

APPEARING ON WHICH BILL 458

DO YOU: SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE X AMEND _____

COMMENTS (OPTIONAL):

Stephan Shank

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY

MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME André Snitko & Family

ADDRESS 211 Upper Rader Ck Rd, Whitehall, MT

HOME PHONE 494-1157 WORK PHONE 490-5154

REPRESENTING _____

APPEARING ON WHICH BILL Senate Bill # 458

DO YOU: SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE ✓ AMEND _____

COMMENTS (OPTIONAL):

I believe that I speak for a vast number of homeschoolers in stating the following.

This bill, if passed, would require us to change our religion and our high standards of education.

My God requires myself and my wife to "train a child in the way he should go."

A "public" education would not be doing this.

I have met many "public schooled" children and adults who have very limited knowledge, wisdom, and integrity. On the flip-side, I have met very few home-schoolers with this problem.

The Senate derives its "power" from the people. It is clear that the will of the people is a "hands-off" policy concerning home-education.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY

MONTANA STATE SENATE
2007 LEGISLATURE

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME DAVE Shreeve
ADDRESS Bx 93 Forsyth, MT
HOME PHONE 406-356-4261 WORK PHONE 406-346-2796 XT 102
REPRESENTING Forsyth Schools
APPEARING ON WHICH BILL HB 363
DO YOU: SUPPORT X OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

COMMENTS (OPTIONAL):

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY

February 19, 2007

Dear Senator:

Thank you for supporting the rights of parents who educate their children at home. We would appreciate your support again today by voting against SB 458.

This bill once again puts unnecessary burdens on home schooling families by forcing us to "register" as a part of a system we don't use, nor in good conscience can support. This bill will enable the system to use our children for financial gain without any benefit to the children or their families.

We desire to live in this great country and enjoy the freedoms our founding fathers bled and died for. This bill appears to be one more attempt to control the citizens of Montana who choose to educate their children at home, removing even more of our God-given rights and freedoms.

Please vote against Senate Bill 458.

Thank you!

Christopher Mutchler

Senator:

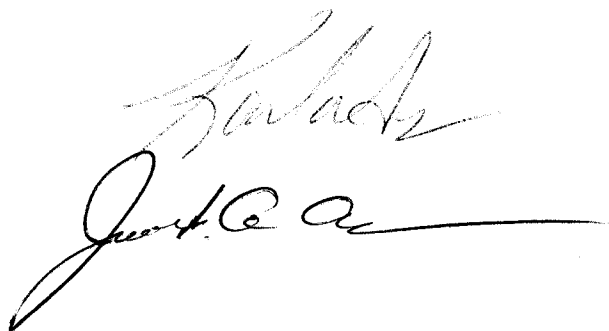
SB 458 is another attempt by oppressive legislators to undermine and ultimately destroy a parent's right to educate their child. It adds yet one more edict to Montanan's who are choosing to take responsibility for their children's education, rather than relinquishing this responsibility to the State.

The amended text of 20-5-109; point 5(a) is unnecessary, because home educators already are submitting the names and ages of their students to the county superintendents as required under current law.

Having home-educated students registered in the local school districts also opens the door to another burden on Montana taxpayers. The school district would not be providing any assistance to homeschoolers, yet could potentially receive monies simply because the homeschool students are "registered students" within that district. This would be a ridiculous and grossly unfair taxation of Montanans.

Karla and Joe Ayers

Fort Benton, MT

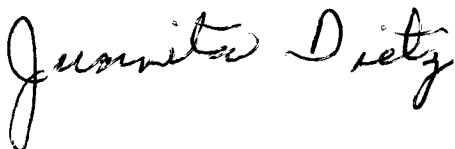
Handwritten signatures of Karla and Joe Ayers. The signature for Karla is written above the signature for Joe. Both signatures are in cursive and are written in dark ink.

Senator:

SB 458 is another attempt by oppressive legislators to undermine and ultimately destroy a parent's right to educate their child. It adds yet one more edict to Montanan's who are choosing to take responsibility for their children's education, rather than relinquishing this responsibility to the State.

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A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Juanita Dietz". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with the first and last names clearly legible.

Juanita Dietz

Fort Benton, MT

February 19, 2007

Dear Senator Ryan and members of the Senate Education Committee,

Senate Bill 458 is yet another attempt to regulate families and students that have chosen home education as the best educational choice.

This is at least the 3rd legislative session where you, Senator Ryan, have personally attempted, with no evidence that home educated students and their families need regulation, to bring forth such legislation with no success because there is simply no evidence to support that such regulation needs to exist.

On page 3, line 16 of SB 458, the new bill would give the county superintendent the responsibility to register each home educated student. I ask, for what purpose? Each family is already required to notify the superintendent of who the child is, their age and grade level and where and by whom they are being educated. Registering a student puts them in the rolls with publicly educated students, thereby essentially lumping them together for the purpose of getting funding from the community and the state for the additional students who would never even enter the doors of the public school, and giving the school authority to regulate curriculum, etc. Lest you forget, we the home educating taxpayers already put our money in property taxes, state taxes and federal taxes to support a school system which we don't send our children to. This is called taxation without representation.

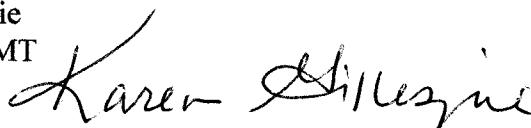
Page 4, lines 4-8, would require each student to be registered before the beginning of each school *fiscal* year. There you have it. This bill is about money and how to get more of it for an education system that has too much money to waste already.

No evidence exists that home educated students need to be registered or regulated because they are getting excellent educations from and by the people who care about them the most, their parents or grand parents.

Senator Ryan and members of the committee, I would ask you to please leave the home schooling community to regulate ourselves. We really do know what we are doing and know what is best for our own children. The statistics and data on home educated students will give you all the evidence you need. The *public* education system is your domain; do with it what you wish.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Karen Gillespie
Fort Benton, MT

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Gillespie". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name and address.